

[UM] Unidentified Male.
[UI] Unintelligible.
[NFI] Not Further Identified.
(LNU) Last name unknown.
[*Italics*] Translator's comments.
[...] Incomplete sentence.

Sh = Shukri Abu Baker
Om = Omar Ahmad
Gh = Ghassan Elashi
Ss = Sheik Sharif
Ga = Gawad (LNU)
Ab = Abdel Salam (LNU)
Ak = Akram (LNU)
Au = Abou Usama (NFI)
As = Abdel Halim Al Ashqar (Aboul Hasan)
Aa = Abou Ahmad (NFI)
Aj = Abdel Jabbar
Ab2 = Abou Bassem (NFI)
Mu = Muin (LNU)

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Om: The picture is just like brother Shukri mentioned and I want to just emphasize it. What is important is do an awareness project for the Foundation's donors. I mean, we have people who have donated in the past years, they have donated for the past four or five years, for instance, since the beginning of the Intifada. We have a large group..., 20,000 names or 25,000 names of people who donated \$50 to us or more. Why can't there be an awareness project for those people? It would include first of all Islamic awareness, for instance, the religious and the creedal aspect as most of them are Muslims or all of them are Muslims. Second, for instance, a media and a political project whereby we explain to them the media and the political aspect. I mean, we explain to them what is going on so that these donors understand that what happened is not a solution to the cause and that the situation is still as is, that the problem has not been solved. On the contrary, it got more complicated and that we now need support. I mean, other organizations can undertake

this..., this awareness. If the Fund cannot send a media/political bulletin or leaflet, the [Islamic] Association [for Palestine] can take care of that and the names can come..., I mean we can buy the names from them and we send it to them. We can focus on them for three or four months where a bulletin is sent out every month including what is going on and the developments of the situation. This would be done in a good English language, the bulletin or the leaflet should be moderate and it would prepare these people to donate so that we don't lose these people. I believe that, if we are going to lose some people, let us lose 10% and not 50% of them and he who is going to reduce his donation by 50%, let him reduce it by 10% if we provide awareness to him. I believe that we have..., we have a very good base, I mean, we have a good Muslim base who if we explain to them the Islamic aspect..., if we explain the Muslims' situation on the inside, what is going to happen to Muslims' organizations, if we explain that this self-rule is nothing but a tool in the hands of the Jews or..., I mean, in a moderate way, of course. I believe donations won't be much impacted. And I believe we have time from now until the end of the year to get this project going. This is a suggestion. The second suggestion is that if we want to..., brother Shukri suggested the idea of having talks with the Americans about supporting the self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. I believe that our problem is that we stopped working underground. We will recognize the source of any message which comes out of us. I mean, if a message is publicized, we will know..., the media person among us will recognize that you send two messages; one to the Americans and one to the Muslims.

Om: ... This is an excellent idea as we must enlarge the circle of the Foundation's beneficiaries, either Palestinians inside Palestine or outside Palestine such as in Lebanon and stuff. The issue is that I feel that there is something missing from the [Islamic] Association [For Palestine] and its relationship with the Fund. There is a lot missing which is the media aspect of the Fund. For instance, you meet with the community every year through the festivals. When you or Abou Ibrahim stand up with the multitudes and address them, if he raises \$5,000, that's fine, but there is a message for them during Ramadan at least or when the sheik who is affiliated with the Fund appears, they recognize that this is the same person they saw during the festival. You're then building direct relationship with the people. This is better than another organization which never saw Jericho and whose chairman is unknown [to the community]. I mean, now Abou Ibrahim is now known all over America. I don't think there is one Arab-Muslim who doesn't know him. Half the Pakistanis also know him. Brother Shukri is the same thing. When they receive a letter from him they realize that this is same person I saw in the region, he is the one who gave the Friday sermon, he came to the festival and stuff. So, the media aspect is very important even if a person doesn't raise [money]. Even if a future problem rises where he cannot raise money during the festivals, the point is that the Fund goes out to its public and remains a point of contact for the public when it holds activities or takes advantage of the activities of the [Islamic] Association [For Palestine] to reach public even if they don't donate [money] on that day. This is what I have...UI.

Ga: ... Everything is under its hand, all the employees, all is affiliated [*with it*]. Nothing will be done except through it. So, you at the Movement...UI, there is no problem with that. It is possible that the Movement lives alongside Fatah. Therefore, any organization which they [*i.e. Fatah*] consider as affiliated with the Movement will come to an end. My brothers...UI, the government of Kuwait tried to do the same thing with the Movement. The government of Kuwait and not Fatah. They adopted the same line of thinking, the biased thinking.

As: The House of Zakat.

Ga: The House of Zakat and which was for the Islamists. And I remember one of our brothers who said that this will be the beginning of the weakness of our influence. There were tens of popular charitable committees which were distributing [*aid*] but they were...UI. A man who didn't have the money for education was sent to America to get education...UI. Now, go the House of Zakat now and see it, it is a governmental agency affiliated with the Ministry of Endowments. It has a director and stuff...UI, the Kuwaiti government. So, this is how Arafat's thinking will be. On the contrary, he might try to befriend the Palestinian families and make a unified [*aid*] party for the entire [*West*] Bank.

UM1: Family Welfare [*Society*]?

Ga: Yeah. Its main goal was to attempt to bring down the Zakat committees. There you will have a problem with charity work. The medical clinics will become a part of the Ministry of Health. It is not going to be up to you to oversee them. All mosques will be under the Ministry of Endowments and you won't have the choice to work in them as well.

...

There is an idea now to...UI the inside right now. I suggest an idea to...UI form a committee to coordinate between all the organizations. Now, right away. The Zakat committees, the clinics, the services and stuff. Committees should be formed right now to coordinate matters between them but each committee shouldn't be separate from the others...UI. So, form committees right now and they will sum up all matters together. Issues relating to '48 and...UI will be handled. There will be negative aspects relating to work and tying charitable work with the political parties inside the Movement or its supporters. That means that there shouldn't be a political stand by the Movement or its representatives which will...UI. This would create a problem for us...UI. Outside funding is important. I believe that the problems we are facing are two problems; how to deal with the enormous international campaign facing people inside and outside which says that there is no need for support over there [*inside Palestine*].

As:

... After Arafat

signed [*the peace accord*] at the White House and after the signing ceremony was over, he met the next day with Dr. Waheed El Shami who is a Palestinian from Ramallah - he is originally from Ramallah but resides in America - to establish an American University in the Occupied Territories in the manner of the American University in Beirut, Cairo and elsewhere. If such a University was established in the [*Gaza*] Sector, it means that there is no reason to have the Islamic University. Therefore, they might not resort to...UI method, but deal with matters with some sort of intelligence so that they have the pretexts. Why is the Islamic University operating when we have the American University? Here are the...UI. They will build large buildings for it and the secure specializations in it and all the aspects which can simply steal the show from you. This is one thing that requires a kind of..., of a quick initiative.

Sh:

... Even children's daycare centers... [*break in recording*]...which is the criterion, we discover that their Dawa'a value is close to zero. This is an example. What do we want then? [*break in recording*]...UI. What have we benefitted from that? The same thing applies to orphans sponsorships; we spend hundreds of thousands of dollars over this program but, there is no Dawa'a use for it. Ok? We are not re-evaluating our strategy in charity work in the first place, we want to act as a...UI [*break in recording*]... all the money we transferred to the Occupied Territories, about 1.25 million until now, 900,000 of it, out of the 1.25 million, went to relief to..., to...er, what you call it? To relief. Relief in a form or another. All of it for relief. There has not been one project for us.
